

REMARKS

Claims 5-8 and 14-20 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claim 5-8 and 14-19 are amended, claim 20 is added, and claims 1, 2, 4, 9, 12 and 13 are canceled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein. Support for the amendments to the claims can be found at least in Fig. 1. Support for the subject matter of new claim 20 can be found at least in the previously presented claims. Thus, no new matter is added.

I. January 6, 2011 Personal Interview

The courtesies extended to Applicants' representative by Examiner Almeida at the interview held January 6, 2011 are appreciated. The reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action are incorporated into the remarks below, which constitute Applicants' separate record of the substance of the interview.

II. Rejections

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 2, 4-9, 12-17 and 19 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,329,390 (Fujiwara), in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,118,572 (Kostecki); and rejects claim 18 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Fujiwara in view of Kostecki and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,223,308 (Baraff). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

As agreed during the interview, the applied references fail to disclose and would not have rendered obvious "a plurality of image record media... each image record media being a different image record layer," as recited by independent claim 5; and "the image record medium comprises includes: a first and second a second image record layer, the first and second image record layers being different," as recited by independent claim 14.

The independent claims recite that each image record media/medium has an image record layer or more than one image record layer, on which an image is recorded upon

application of exposure light. Thus, each image record layer has a corresponding functional layer formed on one side of the image record layer or at least a functional layer in between multiple image record layers. Further, independent claims recite that exposure light is applied to a plurality of image record media.

The Office Action alleges that Fujiwara discloses these features of the independent claims. Specifically, the Office Action alleges that Fig. 1 shows a plurality of layers and that these layers correspond to the plurality of image record media as recited in the independent claims. However, Fujiwara merely discloses one liquid crystal display element, and not a plurality of liquid crystal display elements, each with a corresponding functional layer or at least a functional layer between. Specifically, Fujiwara discloses at col. 2, lines 58-59 and col. 3, lines 19-21 one liquid crystal display element. Thus, Fujiwara fails to disclose a structure having a plurality of image record layers.

The specification discloses at least at pages 8 and 9 the advantages of having stacked and multiple image record layers, with multiple corresponding functional layers. This arrangement allows for simultaneous image recording on multiple layers using only one voltage application and exposure light application. The remaining references fail to cure this deficiency of Fujiwara.

Therefore, independent claims 5 and 14 are patentable over the applied references. Claims 6-8 and 15-19 are patentable at least for their dependencies from the independent claims, as well as for the additional features the claims recite. The rejection of claims 1, 2, 4, 9, 12 and 13 are rendered moot due to their cancellation.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections.

III. New Claim 20 Defines Patentable Subject Matter

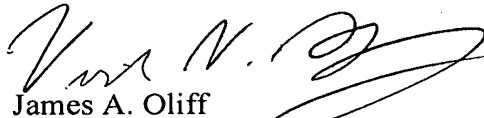
New claim 20 is patentable at least for its dependency on claim 5, as well as for the additional features it recites.

IV. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the claims are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,


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